

Worship and Work

Park Lake Presbyterian Church
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www.plpc.org

309 East Colonial Dr.
Orlando, Florida 32801
Dr. Helen M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor



November/December 2023

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Stewardship 2023 The Next New 100

Please make plans to attend worship, Sunday, November 12, when you will have the opportunity to bring your pledge card forward during worship. **If you cannot attend worship, please return your pledge cards to the church office as soon as convenient.** Then join us following worship for our Annual Youth Fundraiser Thanksgiving Lunch in Struble Fellowship Hall.



Build Your Own Gingerbread House

Sponsored by Park Lake's Esther Circle
Sunday, December 3, 2023
11:45 a.m. Struble Hall

Children and Adults of all ages
Lunch: \$5 per person
(Chili, PB&J, Fruit)
Gingerbread House: \$10 per kit

Please R.S.V.P. to erincook987@gmail.com
by November 30, 2023

Include: Name, Number of Adults/Children and Number of
Gingerbread House kits:
(\$5 per person for lunch; \$10 per Gingerbread House kit)

***If you would like to donate money for candy for the
Gingerbread House toppings, please contact Anne Vercheski at
avercheski@cfl.rr.com.**

All money collected will go to benefiting a local charity!

You are invited to the...

**Park Lake Youth Fundraiser
Thanksgiving Lunch
Sunday, November 12
11:45 am, after worship
In Struble Fellowship Hall**

*All are welcome to come
and enjoy fun, food and
fellowship!*



*Donations will be accepted
to help support the
Park Lake Youth on their
2024 Church retreats and
Mission Trips.*

***We are very thankful for your support
this year and in years past!***

WHAT'S INSIDE....?

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⁴*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.* ⁵*Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.* ⁶*Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.* ⁷*and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7*

Paul's exhortation to "Rejoice in the Lord" is instructive anytime but right now it also feels encouraging and hopeful. I think it is a good guide and goal, as we move toward the end of the year and into the celebrations of Thanksgiving and Christmas. When the days ahead start to feel over loaded with activities and I start to feel like I'm just being consumed by rather than savoring the gifts of the holidays, I hope I can remember Paul's exhortation, "Rejoice in the Lord." I hope that will ground me in the constant reality of God's grace and care, rather than losing myself in the press of the holiday expectations and responsibilities. Apparently Paul thinks its worth repeating, "again I will say, Rejoice", and I know I'll need to be reminded again and again, "Rejoice in the Lord".

It strikes me that Paul isn't like an indefatigable cheerleader yelling "Rejoice" no matter what the score. Rejoicing is our response to the Lord and in the Lord is the place where we rejoice. We can rejoice because Jesus knows us, cares for us, and brings God's love to us. In the presence of Jesus there is joy.

The world doesn't seem like a place of much joy right now. We hear news and see images every day of terrible suffering caused by war, violence, and hatred. How can we hear a call to rejoice, without rolling our eyes or shaking our heads with cynicism.

Paul links his call to "Rejoice in the Lord" with a call to "Let your gentleness be known by everyone." Rejoicing in the Lord isn't an isolated inner emotion. Paul connects it with a definite outward behavior. Rejoicing in the Lord produces and is demonstrated by interacting with gentleness with everyone.

I think that is a wonderful way to move forward into the time we find ourselves in. How can we rejoice in a way that will result in our acting gently toward the people around us, gently toward the world that seems rent by such brokenness, and gently with ourselves when we feel overwhelmed and out of sorts? The gentleness Paul calls us to display is exemplified in the gentleness of Jesus Christ. "Have the same mind in you that was in Christ Jesus" (2:5). Be of the same mind, have the same love, be in full accord, don't be selfish or conceited, in humility regard others as better than yourself. (2:2,3)

Eugene Peterson translates Paul's exhortation like this: *4-5 Celebrate God all day, every day. I mean, revel in him! Make it as clear as you can to all you meet that you're on their side, working with them and not against them. Help them see that the Master is about to arrive. He could show up any minute!*

Rejoice, the Lord is near! Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, everyday, every time. Jesus is near making real the gentleness of God in the world.

Dan DeBevoise,
Co-pastor



Park Lake Youth Group - Upcoming Events



November is a busy month for our PLPC youth!

November 11 - Gleaning corn at Long and Scott Farms - what could be more Thanksgiving? This activity is open for all ages. contact Erin Cook for details. erincook@gmail.com.

November 12 - All hands on deck for our Annual Youth Thanksgiving Dinner! A Delicious meal with delightful company - This is for YOU our church family and a chance for you to contribute to the youth retreats to Cedar-kirk and Montreat.

November 17 - Friday Night Live goes BOWLING! We'll meet at 5:45 pm at Primrose Lanes for bowling and snacking.

ALL SUNDAYS - Sunday School gathers at 9 am, November topic - *Would Jesus Recycle?* The sacredness of creation and humanity's responsibility to be good stewards of it.

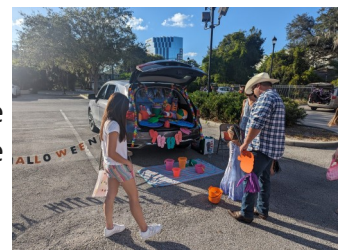


GayStraight@Park Lake would like to thank the PLPC community for their support of the church's participation in the Orlando PRIDE Festival on October 21st. It was wonderful meeting so many people and showing them the love of Christ.



Park Lake Trunk or Treat

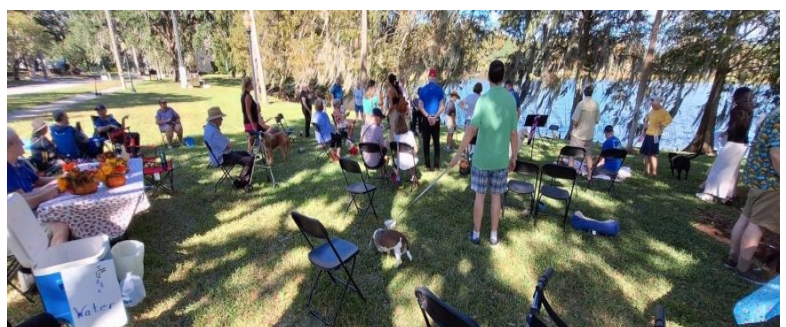
A fun time was had at the Park Lake Family Trunk or Treat! There were 10 trunks with games, crafts, and candy in the Park Lake parking lot.



Thank you to everyone who hosted a trunk, who attended and to Erin Cook for organizing!

You can see more photos of Trunk or Treat on our website at plpc.org!

Park Lake held its first **Blessing of the Pets** for the congregation, friends, and neighbors. There were water bowls aplenty and 25 pets received a personalized Certificate of Blessing. Attendees were asked to bring an offering of canned dog or cat food. These will be donated to [Pet Alliance of Orlando](http://PetAllianceofOrlando.org)'s Pet Food Pantry.



All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all!

MISSION AND OUTREACH



ANGEL STOCKING

Fill an Angel Stocking! Park Lake is again sponsoring “Angel Stockings” for the pediatric patients at Grace Medical Home, one of Park Lake’s mission partners. Grace Medical Home reflects the heart of Christ by offering the highest level of health care to the low-income, uninsured in Orange County. (gracemedicalhome.org)



The Angel Stocking donations will also be used to purchase bicycles for farmworkers via the Hope Community Center in Apopka. “Through service and advocacy, Hope Community Center stands together with immigrants and others who are facing oppression.” (hcc-offm.org)



Park Lake will be donating Christmas stockings, Christmas books and money for bicycles in early December. Please find the "Angel" tree in the west transept and choose one or more donation slips from inside the stockings. Donations may be sent to the church office, placed in the collection plate, made on the plpc.org Giving Page, or given to Anne Vercheski.

Please have your donation in by December 3. Thank you for showing the love of Christ to these children!

We are grateful for any year end donations you are able to make to Park Lake Presbyterian Church. Many people also make special year end gifts as a part of their financial plans.



- If mailing, **donations must be postmarked by Saturday, December 30, 2023.**
- **Or received in the church office by 12:00 pm on Thursday, December 28, 2023,** if you wish to drop your donation off at the church office.
- Placed in the offering plate, on or before December 31.
- You may also give through **December 31, 2023** via “Online Giving” on our website, plpc.org.

The church office will be closed Monday, December 25 and Tuesday, December 26.



The **GayStraight@Park Lake group** usually collects gift cards and monetary contributions for the Zebra Coalition during the month of December. Since December is such a busy month for charitable giving, the group has decided to move their collection month from December to **February**.

We will give a “gift of love” to the Zebra Coalition for Valentine’s Day 2024. The Zebra Coalition is an organization that provides services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender youth (LGBTQ+) from the ages of 13 through 24. The Coalition assists young people facing homelessness, bullying, isolation from their families, and physical, sexual, and drug abuse, with individualized programs to guide them to recovery and stability.

5 CENTS A MEAL OFFERING
Sunday, November 5
and December 3

Each month, Park Lake participates in an offering to support the **Presbyterians'**

Answer to Hunger Program (PATH). The first Sunday of each month, Park Lake asks members to contribute 5 cents for each meal during the month on

Communion Sundays. This is a reminder that as we have been fed at the Lord's table we are called to feed others.

We encourage you to continue to send your 5 cents per meal offering to the church during this time.



One day = 15 cents
 One week = \$1.05
 One month = \$4.20

To learn more about 5 Cents a meal go to:
cfpresbytery.org

SERVING AT THE
CHRISTIAN SERVICE
CENTER

10:45 am,
Tuesday, November 28 and
December 26

The Christian Service Center is always in need of gently used men's clothing and especially in great need of gently used men's shoes. Please keep these needs in mind and put items in the back pews in the west transept. We will deliver them!

Please consider helping a few times a year. See John Bowers or email me at **jbowers4@cfl.rr.com** for all the details.



Helping with lunch assembly at Daily Bread (Christian Service Center)



FIRST ANNUAL THANKSGIVING
COMMUNITY SERVICE



CHRISTIAN
SERVICE CENTER
 40 years of faithful hands

Sunday, November 19, 6:30 pm,
 at First United Methodist Church, Orlando. We're coming together for a joyous celebration of Thanksgiving, and the best part is, it's all for a wonderful cause! This event aims to support the vital work of the Christian Service Center. We kindly request that everyone bring non-perishable foods to donate to CSC. Combined choirs, led by Jason Locker and Karen Roberts, to include: First Church Orlando, First Presbyterian of Orlando, Broadway UMC, Mt. Olive AME Church, and Park Lake Presbyterian.

Let's join hands as a community and share the spirit of Thanksgiving by giving back to those who need it most.

FOOD COLLECTION for WASHINGTON
SHORES PRESBYTERIAN FOOD PANTRY
Tuesdays, November 14 and 28
and Tuesdays, December 5 and 19
10:30 am - 11:30 am

Food and hygiene donations for Washington Shores Presbyterian continues, their need is very great. We are the only church that donates on a regular basis.



Hygiene items:

Soap
 Deodorant
 Disposable razors
 Socks (men's socks)
 Toilet paper
 Toothbrushes
 Toothpaste
 Dental floss
 Shampoo
 Sanitary supplies
 Women's Incontinence items

Food items:

Fruits and vegetables (other than corn) with pop tops: peas, carrots, peaches, beans, etc.
Jelly
Cereal
 Rice
 Crackers
(low stock items in bold)

**please check expiration dates on food items before donating.*

Please pick up a blessing bag or two to give to those in need in our community.

UPCOMING EVENTS



STORIES TO TELL, will meet on **Monday, November 13, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm**, in the church conference room. The **December** meeting date is to be determined. Please email Meg Lelvis at meglelvis@yahoo.com or Nancy Warlick at dadab12@att.net for further information.



The **GAYSTRAIGHT@PARK LAKE group** invites their friends and allies to our monthly luncheon at Panera Bread, 3643 East Colonial Drive, in the Orlando Fashion Square Mall. This event is a ten-minute drive from the church.

The upcoming meetings will be:

♦ **Sunday, November 19 at Panera Bread, from 12:30-1:30 pm.** We meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

♦ **Saturday, December 16,, 2023, at 6:00 pm, we will be meeting at the home of Sandy and Jim Bogner.** We hope to see you there! For more information, please email Howard Jaffe at roses41usa@gmail.com.



PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB, 10:00 am, in the Koinonia room, located downstairs in the Sanctuary building. Thursday, November 16 we will discuss, The Book of Lost Names, by Kristin Harmel, The **December** meeting date is to be determined.

Please contact Anne Gardepe at annegard64@gmail.com for more information.



THE POTTER'S HAND: COMBINING ART AND FAITH

November is a month of Gratitude. At Potter's Hand on **Wednesday, November 15, 6-8 pm**, we will be working on Gratitude Bowls thinking about the things that we give, the things we receive and how we hold what is given to us.

All hands on deck! (literally and figuratively). We need help with deacon/elder ordination stoles. Keep a lookout for times we will be gathering to construct stoles for our upcoming leader installation. Contact Vicky Nicoll and Helen DeBevoise with your availability.

In **December** Potter's Hand will be held **Wednesday, December 13, 6-8 pm**.

Park Lake PW Circle Meeting Schedule



Dorcas: Monday, November 6 and Monday, December 4
1:30 pm, Parlor
Circle Representative
Anne Gardepe, annegard64@gmail.com
Bible Moderator
Sandy Bogner, sandybogner@cfl.rr.com

Sarah: Monday, November 6 and Monday, December 4
2:00 pm, Westminster Towers,
Multi Purpose Room
Circle Representative & Bible Moderator
Marian Price, marian66@cfl.rr.com

Joanna: Monday, November 6 (Parlor) and Monday, December 4 (home of Carol Fisher)
7:00 pm
Circle Representative
Sherry Riley, sheray27@gmail.com
Bible Moderator
Helen DeBevoise, helenparklake@gmail.com

Esther: Tuesday, November 14
(change of regular meeting date)
and Tuesday, December 5
7:00 pm, Struble Fellowship Hall
Circle Representative
Erin Cook, erincook987@gmail.com
Bible Moderator
Anne Vercheski, avercheski@cfl.rr.com

UPCOMING EVENTS



NOVEMBER

Howard Vincent Kurtz & Howard Jaffe	1
Vicky Nicoll	1
Susan Thompson	1
Owen Smith	2
Rachel Foley	5
Matt & Vicki Daley	5
Mary Frances Emmons	6
Vern Boatman	7
Donald Gaboriault	7
Billie Jo & Clay Elliott	8
Sydney Patterson	11
Kaley (Bookhardt) Shropshire	12
Lorraine Schneider	14
Nancy Warlick	15
Steven Burris	17
Paula Nowell	18
Mike Woods	18
Alice Schmidt	19
Fernando Sanchez	20
Elsie Oberst	21
Donald P. DeBevoise	22
Daniel Johnson	22
Alison Walker	22
Daetwyler Bertram	24
John Bowers	25
Rosie Bearden	26

DECEMBER

Cheryl Woods	01
DeVonna Craner	02
Camden Jones	04
Pete Denniston	06
Laura Moloney	08
Thomas Poore	08
Mike Bookhardt	09
Barbara Morris	10
Maria and Robert Larr	11
Gwyneth Ingram	12
Doug Lawton	13
Melahn Murphy	15
Linda Shrieves	15
Ron Hummert	16
Kyle Butler	17
Stacia Hujik	19
Michelle Burris	22
Delaney Bookhardt	24
Larry Welker	26
Madison Cox	26
Phyllis Dotherow	27
Florence Baadu	27
Cindy Schmidt	29
Christopher Gantt	29
Carol and Larry Fisher	29
Tatumn Bertram-Connolly	30
David Foley, Jr	31



First Fridays and First Saturdays

ART EXHIBITS AT FAVO

(Faith Arts Village Orlando)

Friday, November 3 and

Saturday, November 4

AND

Friday, December 1 and

Saturday, December 2

5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Come stroll through the artist studios, listen to live music and enjoy a relaxing evening with friends.



PARK LAKE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
309 East Colonial Drive
Orlando, Florida 32801

Return Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL

Dr. Dan M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor
Dr. Helen M. DeBevoise, Co-pastor



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

2023

Park Lake Church Library Selections



Check out, Peaceful Neighbor: Discovering the Counter Cultural Mister Rogers, by Michael G. Long (261 LON).

Mister Rogers was no “mamby-pamby”, he fervently believed in a God who accepts us as we are and who desires a world marked by peace and wholeness. Recommended chapters include:

1. “Isn’t Peace Wonderful”: Against the Vietnam War for Gandhi
3. “I Like You”: Against the Cold War, for Puppet Detente.
4. “Just the Way You Are”: A Theology of Peace
7. “A Black Brother”: Race and Diversity
8. “Food for the World”: Tears for Hungry Children.
9. “I’m Tired of Being a Lady”: Tough Girls, Sensitive Boys
10. “He Understood”: Homosexuality and Gay Friends
11. “I Love Tofu Burgers and Beets”: Animals and Mothers

Celebrating Christmas As If It Matters, by David Lambert (263.3 LAM)

This book selection is about choosing gifts, sharing Christmas with others, celebrating long distance and creating memories.

Alice Schmidt, Park Lake Church Librarian

Visit Park Lake’s Little Free Library, take a book and leave a book!



FIRST SUNDAY
OF
Advent

Sunday, December 3, 2023